



For immediate release  
December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2006

**ROBERT FRANCES NAMED FIRST VICE CHAIR OF BOARD OF  
THE INVESTMENT FUNDS INSTITUTE OF CANADA (IFIC)**

**Montreal (Quebec)** - PEAK Financial Group is delighted to announce the nomination of its President and CEO, **Robert Frances**, to the Board of Directors of the IFIC.

On November 24, 2006, Robert Frances, president of PEAK Financial Group, was named first Vice-Chair to the Board of Directors of the IFIC. In this position, he will perform the duties and exercise the powers of IFIC's Chair in the absence of the Chair, and perform any other duties requested by the board. Joanne De Laurentiis, President and CEO of IFIC, cited Mr. Frances' knowledge of the industry and the high regard in which he is held by industry colleagues as the reasons for his appointment to Vice-Chair. "He brings with him two very important perspectives since he comes from one of the largest independent mutual fund dealers in Canada as well as from Quebec." Pierre Hamel, Chair of the Quebec Investment Funds Council, applauds Mr. Frances's nomination. "He is a man of great talent. He can get people together and has great leadership, qualities that will benefit the entire mutual funds industry." <sup>1</sup>

The Investment Funds Institute of Canada is the national association of the Canadian investment fund industry. Membership comprises mutual fund management companies, retail distributors and affiliates from the legal, accounting and other professions.

Established in 1992, the PEAK Financial Group includes PEAK Investment Services Inc., PEAK Securities Inc., PEAK Insurance Services Inc., and PEAK Financial Services Inc. It is one of the most dynamic privately-owned providers of personal financial services in Canada. PEAK continues to be the dealer of choice for independent financial planners, investment advisors and insurance professionals.

**For more information, please contact:**

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<sup>1</sup> *L'Express du CFIQ, numéro 31, décembre 2006*